

Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /076 W

----- 051219

R 070930Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3084

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONGKONG

UNCLAS MANILA 6055

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, RP, CH, TW

SUBJECT: SPRATLY ISLANDS

1. REPORT OF NEW VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT'S ASSUMPTION OF CONTROL OVER SONG TU TAY, SON CA, NAM YAT, SINH TON, TRUONG SAH, AND AN BANG IN SPRATLY GROUP WAS LEAD ITEM ON MORNING NEWS PROGRAMS IN MANILA MAY 7. UPI AND AP ACCOUNT OF EVENT, DATED HONG KONG, APPEARED ON FRONT PAGE OF TIMES JOURNAL BUT NOT IN DAILY EXPRESS OR BULLETIN TODAY. TIMES JOURNAL ACCOUNT REPORTS THAT SPRATLYS HAVE BEEN CLAIMED BY PRC, PHILIPPINES, TAIWAN AND GVN. ACCOUNT OF NEW VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT'S TAKEOVER OF THE ISLANDS IS ATTRIBUTED TO GIAI PHONG PRESS AGENCY. AUP/UPI REPORTS ROC DEFENSE SPOKESMAN CLAIMED MAY 6 THAT ROC TROOPS STILL OCCUPY ITU ABA AND REPORT THAT ALL IS QUIET. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT MILITARY OBSERVERS CONSIDER THAT MOST INTERESTING ASPECT OF LATEST DEVELOPMENT WILL BE PEKING'S REACTION TO "VIETNAMESE INVASION OF SPRATLYS".

2. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST TIME GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED PRESS HAS REPORTED ACTIVITY IN SPRATLYS ABOUT WHICH WE HAVE KNOWN FOR SOME TIME AT LEAST SINCE MID-APRIL. PRESS MADE NO REFERENCE TO GOP PRESENCE IN ISLANDS.

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SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 07 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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